

Enterprise preparing for final unit evaluation

By MC3 Jeffry Willadsen
Enterprise Public Affairs

USS ENTERPRISE, At Sea – Sailors aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise (CVN 65) completed the fourth day of their Tailored Ship’s Training Availability (TSTA) / Final Evaluation Period (FEP) Aug. 6 as the ship continued flight deck operations in support of ongoing carrier qualifications.

The Afloat Training Group is training and grading Enterprise and Carrier Air Wing One (CVW 1) Sailors on what they learned in order to determine whether the ship’s crew is prepared for the unpredictable challenges faced during a combat deployment.

FEP is a graded exercise in conjunction with TSTA encompassing large-scale battle problems that require the ship to respond with general quarters [battle stations], flying squad [emergency response damage control team] drills, and mass casualty responses in addition to other areas across the fleet’s largest ship.

Engineering department’s damage control training team is one of many teams that are heavily involved. Effective casualty control during combat is a major component in achieving mission readiness, which is the primary purpose of the underway period.

“Our success during FEP is crucial to us being certified to conduct our mission abroad,” said Lt. j.g. Andrew J. Dietzel, the assistant damage control officer aboard Enterprise. “Essentially, it’s the Navy declaring us ready to fight damage to the ship in a real situa-



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Jacob D. Galito

Sailors assigned to repair locker 1F fight a simulated fire during a general quarters exercise.

tion at sea.”

The ship’s damage control training team uses controlled smoke, charged fire hoses and firefighting equipment to ensure the exercises are as realistic as possible. Carefully planned scenarios, meant to mirror real-life situations add to the realism.

At some point in the evaluation, Sailors will encounter 20 to 30 simulated casualties at the same time, said Dietzel.

“It’s a rigorous process, but it’s what the Navy needs in order for us to prove that we’re ready to do what we are meant to do, which is project air power at sea and ashore.” said Dietzel. “We will prove that we are ready.”

Other major areas of training include drills and scenarios encompassing navigation, seamanship, engineer-

ing, combat systems and other areas.

All of the scenarios maintain focus on getting the ship ready to deploy. Once the FEP inspection is completed, Enterprise will be certified at the unit level and will begin integrated training with the rest of the Enterprise Carrier Strike Group (ENTSG). The integrated phase will culminate in the entire strike group being certified as ready to deploy.

Enterprise is at sea conducting work-ups leading to its 21st deployment. For more information about USS Enterprise, Carrier Strike Group 12 or Carrier Air Wing One visit www.enterprise.navy.mil, www.ccs12.surfor.navy.mil or www.cvw1.navy.mil. You can also visit www.news.navy.mil/local/cvn65.

Navy prepares Sailor, families for seasonal flu

August recognized as Immunization Awareness Month

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- The Navy recognizes August as Immunization Awareness Month.

With flu season quickly approaching, Navy leadership are urging service members, veterans and family members to be aware of the risks of seasonal flu and to receive their scheduled vaccinations.

Influenza or "flu" has the potential to significantly impact Navy force readiness and missions. In the United States, influenza results in more than 25 million reported cases, more than 150,000 hospitalizations due to serious complications and more than 30,000 deaths annually.

According to the Navy Surgeon General Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson Jr., immunization is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of seasonal influenza.

"Influenza is not the common cold," said Robinson. "It can be a severe to life-threatening disease and getting an annual flu vaccine immunization protects us from getting the disease or becoming severely ill. The seasonal flu vaccine not only helps protect vaccinated individuals, but also helps protect

entire communities by preventing and reducing the spread of the disease." Navy medical officials anticipate the supply of vaccine to Navy medical treatment facilities will arrive by late September and do not anticipate any availability issues like those experienced last fall.

This year's seasonal influenza vaccine contains three inactive virus components based on an estimate of the most prevalent strains for the upcoming season. The 2009 H1N1 pandemic strain is incorporated as one of the three 2010-2011 seasonal influenza vaccine components. New influenza strains with the potential to become pandemic have not yet been identified for 2010-2011 but the possibility remains that a new virus strain could emerge, become

a pandemic and require an additional influenza vaccine. The Armed Forces Health Surveillance Center will closely monitor the emergence of potential new virus strains.

"Let me assure you that the vaccine is safe, effective, and will be widely available beginning next month," said Robinson.

Robinson also states that all personnel and their family members can limit the effects of the seasonal and H1N1 flu by adopting some basic preventive health practices such as covering their mouth when they cough, washing hands often, and avoiding touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

"Following these simple good practices will help us all stay healthy during this flu season," said Robinson.

For more information, NAVADMIN 255/10 details the Navy's Influenza Vaccination and Reporting Policy.

For more information about Navy Medicine, visit www.med.navy.mil

For more news from Navy Medicine, visit www.navy.mil/local/mednews/.

"Following these simple good practices will help us all stay healthy during the flu season."

-General Vice Adm. Adam M. Robinson Jr.

Underway Channels

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SAILORS OF THE DAY



Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class (AW) Jeffrey D. Owens

Q: Why did you join the Navy?

A: "To see the world and learn a trade."

Q: What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?

A: "Making the aircraft mission ready because I take pride in all of my work."

Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: "Spend time with my wife and kids."

Logistics Specialist 2nd Class (AW) Dustin T. Vest

Q: Why did you join the Navy?

A: "To see the world and to be a part of a fine organization."

Q: What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?

A: "To assist my squadron with the parts they need, so I can see our jets fly."

Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: "Play golf and softball."



Big E Outlook

Professional Military Knowledge (PMK) Training

Get ready for the September advancement exams now. PMK training is being conducted every Tuesday and Thursday 1:00-2:00 p.m. until 19 August, with a BMR review on 13 August. Training sessions are on the forward or aft mess decks depending on availability. For questions or concerns, please contact ET1 Schwartz or PS1 Brown via e-mail or J-6560/J-7095.

EAWS Note

EAWS testing is conducted on the aft mess decks every Thursday at 9 a.m. by either ATCS Elkins or AM1 Thibodeau. There is a sign-up sheet located outside of AIMD Production Control (in the tunnel at 1-44-1-Q) for those wishing to test.



PMK QUESTION OF THE DAY

Q: What was the highest enlisted rank achievable until 1958?

A: CPO/E-7.



ESWS QUESTION OF THE DAY

Q: What is the geographical responsibility of 6th fleet?

A: Mediterranean, Black Sea areas and eastern Atlantic areas bordering Europe and Africa.



August 7

Open Karaoke on the aft mess decks at 8:30 p.m.

August 8

Live Music and Ice Cream Social on the aft mess decks at 8:30 p.m.

August 9

Texas Hold-Em on the aft mess decks at 8:30 p.m.

Deck Log



U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Robert Guerra

Seaman Christopher F. Peggins, a pin-man in Deck department's 1st division awaits instruction to release the pin from the pelican hook.



U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Jared M. King

An aircraft director signals pilots to maneuver their aircraft assigned to the Checkmates of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 211 into position on the flight deck.



U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Jared M. King

A Sailor from Air department's V-2 division watches as an F/A-18F Super Hornet assigned to the Checkmates of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 211 makes an arrested landing during flight operations.



U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class (EXW) Stacy D. Laseter

Aviation Electronics Technician Airman Frederick T. Cawthon, assigned to the Knighthawks of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 136, prepares to remove a piece of an engine to repair a case seal on an inlet device in the hangar bay.